

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IGA-02 ACDA-19

DRC-01 /176 W

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R 031208Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9621

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 8418

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AO, PO, PDEV

SUBJECT: ANGOLA/CABINDA - THE VIEW FROM KINSHASA

REF: (A) KINSHASA 8417, (B) KINSHASA 8238, (C) KINSHASA A-166

1. ALTHOUGH THE PROMISED DETAILS OF THE MOBUTU-SPINOLA MEETING HAVE NOT YET BEEN FORTHCOMING, WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK INFORMATION AS TO MOBUTU'S SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AT THE SAL CONCLAVE. FROM HERE IT SEEMS EVIDENT THAT MOBUTU'S DESIGN FOR ANGOLA HAS SUFFERED AT LEAST A TEMPORARY SETBACK AS A RESULT OF THE OUSTER OF SPINOLA. THIS CONCLUSION IS BASED ON THE KNOWN DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN SPINOLA AND ELEMENTS OF THE AFM ON THE MODALITIES AND TIMING OF DECOLONIZATION, ESPECIALLY IN ANGOLA.

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2. WE ARE PUZZLED AS TO WHY SEKOU TOURE WOULD PUBLICIZE THE FANCIFUL CANARDS REPORTED IN CONAKRY'S 1485. FROM ALL EVIDENCE HERE, MOBUTU IS ACTIVELY TRYING TO PROMOTE A COMMON FRONT OF LIBERATION GROUPS WHICH, AT A MINIMUM, WILL CONTAIN BOTH HOLDEN ROBERTO AND NETO (AND POSSIBLY UNITA'S SAVIMBI). EVEN THOUGH MOBUTU IS NOT HAPPY ABOUT NETO, HAVING FAILED IN HIS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE NETO'S OUSTER AS MPLA PRESIDENT DURING THE LUSAKA CONGRESS, HE IS PRAGMATIC ENOUGH TO REALIZE THAT THE FIRST PRIORITY IS NOW TO ESTABLISH SOME SEMBLANCE OF UNITY WITHIN MPLA IN ORDER THAT A "COMMON FRONT" CAN BE PUT TOGETHER WITH THE FNLA (AND PERHAPS UNITA). AS FOR HOLDEN, HE CONTINUES TO HAVE MOBUTU'S FULL SUPPORT BUT MOBUTU PROBABLY ALSO REALIZES THAT HE CANNOT IMPOSE HIM AS A LATTER-DAY ANGOLAN EQUIVALENT OF CABRAL OR MACHEL AND THAT THERE MUST BE SOME FORM OF A COLLEGIUM REPRESENTING THE MAJOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. IN THIS CONNECTION SOARES' SURVIVAL AS FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD APPEAR TO STRENGTHEN NETO FURTHER AND WE NOTE NETO APPEARED AT THE DAR TRIPARTITE SUMMIT. ADDED COMPLICATION TO FOREGOING IS CONTINUED PRESENCE IN KINSHASA OF DANIEL CHIPENDA WHO ON OPENING MPLA OFFICE HERE OCTOBER 2 (KINSHASA'S 8417), DENOUNCED NETO'S RECENT CEASE FIRE STATEMENT AS "HIGH TREASON."

3. AS FOR CABINDA, OUR VIEWS REMAIN AS IN KINSHASA 8238. FURTHER EVIDENCE OF MOBUTU'S THINKING IS CONTAINED IN AN INTERESTING ARTICLE IN THE SEPT 25 ISSUE OF SPECIAL REPORTED IN KINSHASA'S A-166.
HINTON

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